

REMARKS

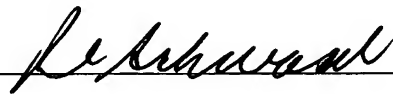
Applicants respectfully request that the foregoing amendments to the claims be entered prior to examination in order to avoid this application incurring a surcharge for the presence of one or more multiple dependent claims. An early and favorable action on the merits is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: January 12, 2005

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By

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "R. Schwaab", is written over a horizontal line.

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